



**Appropriations Committee  
PUBLIC HEARING  
for  
Governor's Bill 6354  
An Act Implementing the Governor's Budget Recommendations  
Concerning General Government**

**Friday, March 22, 2013  
10:00 AM in Room 2C**

**Testimony of Wayne E. Thorpe  
Associate Project Manager  
Department of Construction Services**

Good Morning Senator Harp, Representative Walker, Senator Kane, Representative Miner, and distinguished members of the committee. My name is Wayne E. Thorpe and I am an Associate Project Manager at the Department of Construction Services (DCS), formerly known as the Department of Public Works. I have been with the Department for 25 years.

I am in agreement with the written testimony submitted by Bruce Bockstael, the Chief Architect of DCS. Mr. Bockstael opposes the proposed Bill's language that reassigns DCS project management staff and duties to the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) and the State Department of Education (SDE).

I urge the members of this Committee to reject portions of this proposed Bill affecting the re-assignment of personnel from CT-DCS to the Board of Regents (BOR) and State Department of Education (SDE) for the following reasons:

- It is a scheme and not a plan;
- It will not achieve any savings whatsoever;
- It has not been thought out AT ALL;
- Neither of the other two affected Agencies asked for this Bill and they don't fully grasp the implications of the resulting implementation;
- **Cost Savings can be achieved by not filling the already vacant positions within DCS;**

- Bill 6354 will result in added cost burden to the State for necessary increased support staff;
- The current Administration "Got It Right" for the most part when it re-organized and initiated the (relatively new) Department of Construction Services;
- The various State Agencies which are served by the Department of Construction Services, as well as the architects, engineers, other design professionals and Construction Contractors ALL have the advantage of "One Stop Shopping";
- The current CT DCS has all of the professionals necessary to execute the Statutory requirements to take a project from inception, through design including not only the design of the structure itself, but also getting all of the necessary permits from CT- Department Of Transportation, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, evaluating and awarding construction contracts to capable contractors, and then closing the project out. This expertise did not occur overnight and should not, CANNOT be lost as a result of the passing and implementation of this bill;
- Should the portions of this Bill affecting DCS somehow get through Committee and into the Legislature, when the Fiscal Note is prepared, the true cost of this proposal will come to light, and then everyone will see the expense thrust upon SDE and BOR and ultimately the taxpayers of CT. I am urging this Committee's members to short circuit that embarrassment;
- The public and private sector professionals noted in a paragraph above enjoy dealing with the professional staff employed at DCS because we speak the same language and understand the uniqueness of the construction industry; the professionals are comfortable knowing that the established rules and guidelines are the same across Agency lines and throughout the State of Connecticut.